

A book project for children: Svalbard rock ptarmigan - a year in the Arctic

Institution / company (Norwegian name) Universitetet i Tromsø

Project manager: Åshild Ønvik Pedersen

Phone 77 64 44 47

E-mail ashild.pedersen@ib.uit.no

Principal objective

The book will cover the biology and ecology of svalbard rock ptarmigan, and the species' function in and interaction with the terrestrial ecosystem. By writing this book we hope to inspire children to learn more about wildlife, and create awareness for conservation of species and ecosystems in the Arctic. The book will be a valuable complement of the series of children book (Arctic fox, Walrus, Polarbears and Snow, ice and glaciers) by Blom and researchers at the Norwegian Polar Institute

Project summary

Svalbard rock ptarmigan (*Lagopus muta hyperbora*) is a unique endemic species of the terrestrial ecosystem at Svalbard. Being the only wintering herbivorous bird on the archipelago, it has attracted interest from research, management as well as children. The book's working title is, Svalbard rock ptarmigan - a year in the Arctic, and the story will take the readers through 10 themes covering the biology and ecology of the species, and the species' function in and interaction with the terrestrial ecosystem. The book will be narrated by the professional author,

Kirsti Blom, in cooperation with Åshild Ønvik Pedersen who has worked with svalbard rock ptarmigan for several years. The book will complement the series of children books about arctic fox, walrus, polarbears and snow & ice, written by Blom and researchers from the Norwegian Polar Institute. By writing this book we hope to inspire children to learn more about wildlife, and create awareness for conservation of species and ecosystems in the Arctic.